

THE TERMS.

We again call the attention of our readers to the following extract from the "Terms" of the Era:—
"Every subscriber renewing his subscription, and sending us two new subscribers, shall have the three copies for five dollars."
A subscriber sends us five dollars for three new subscribers, and thinks he carries out the spirit of the proposition. Undoubtedly. A postmaster, not a subscriber, also sends us three new subscribers on the same terms, presuming that we will not object. Certainly not. The only difference between these cases, and those in which subscribers pay their money to agents, is, that in the former the subscribers secure to themselves the benefit of the commission. This does not interfere with our regular agents, but rather helps them by making our readers, and thus extending the field for their operations.
We hope each subscriber, as his subscription runs out, will bear in mind that, by a little exertion, he may secure two new subscribers, and supply himself and them for five dollars.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 21, 1849.
WANTED.
Subscribers, who do not file their papers, and who have copies of numbers 110 and 113, will do us a favor by sending them to our address.

EXTRA NUMBERS

Of the Era, containing Mr. Benton's speech, and Fisher's Lecture, with the reply to it, can be obtained by application at our office. Those ordering them to be sent by mail, shall have them at three cents a-piece. They are sterling documents for circulation in the South.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RUNNING OUT.

Adhering strictly to the cash system, which obliges us to cut off all subscribers, as the times for which they have paid, expire, unless they renew their subscriptions, it is important to remind them from time to time, of the necessity of compliance with our rule, so that they may escape annoyance, and we suffer as little loss as possible.
Last year, during the summer months, owing to the deep interest felt in the Presidential canvass, we received large accessions of subscribers. Their terms are now from week to week running out, of which they are duly notified through the hills sent to them. We suppose the great majority of them are intending to renew; but, unless their attention be called to the subject, very many will delay an operation which would not take them five minutes, till their names are erased, and then not a few will put off renewing, from time to time, till they give up all idea of it.

Now, we have no notion of losing them so easily; and no false delicacy shall restrain us from appealing to them in behalf of themselves, ourselves, and the Cause we deem vital to the best interests of man.
We are anxious that they should renew their subscriptions promptly. The cause of Free Soil and Free Principles is not yet triumphant. Its enemies are powerful and crafty, and certainly calculate upon the Administration to favor their designs. The acts and motives of its adherents are misrepresented and vilified. By the Whig and Democratic organs here, at the seat of Government, they are held up to reprobation as factions, hypocritical, incendiary—conspirators against the peace of the Union. Demagogues are striving to cheat the people into the delusion that the struggle is over, the question settled, so that further agitation is unnecessary. Not so deceived. There is no indication that the slaveholders will abandon their ground—that the slaveholding members of Congress will give up a contest which has become with them a matter of pride, as it is of interest—that the members of Congress from free States will need any less watching and prompting, on the great question of slavery. Let the friends of Freedom relax their efforts, grow lukewarm, indifferent to the dissemination of their views, leave their journals to carry on the conflict, without encouragement—and they will soon lose all that has been gained.

We do not hesitate, then, to ask all our subscribers to renew their subscriptions. They will get back more than the worth of their money; Benton's speech is worth a whole year's subscription—so is the masterly refutation of Fisher's Polly. They will keep their consciences clear, their feelings warm; they will supply their respective neighborhoods with facts and arguments in favor of free principles; they will do us good by strengthening our hands, and do good to the Cause which they profess to regard as vital, by sustaining vigorously the only press at the seat of the Federal Government, which maintains its claims, and depends solely upon popular support (not Governmental patronage) for existence.

A few of our friends have begun to respond to the circular we addressed them two weeks since, soliciting their aid in extending the subscription list of the Era. Thanks for their promptitude. Others, we hope, will soon lay us under similar obligations. It is extremely difficult to secure the services of the right kind of agents; so that we are obliged, to a great extent, to trust to the personal effort of such of our patrons as feel an interest in the welfare of the paper.

DEATH OF MR. POLK.

A telegraphic despatch was received in the city last evening, announcing the melancholy news of the decease of Ex-President Polk, at Nashville, on the 15th instant. We were prepared for this sad intelligence by a despatch received yesterday morning, which represented the state of the Ex-President as almost hopeless.

National Intelligence.

Mr. Polk had been sick for some time, with bilious fever, it is said. His constitution was much shaken by his four years' arduous labors in the Presidential office. This is no time to comment upon the policy of his Administration, but, whatever differences of opinion may prevail, few will deny that he was a man of great nerve, remarkable firmness, and aptness for governing, and that his brief Administration of four years, in activity, in energy, and in magnitude of events, is unsurpassed in our history.

"THE REPUBLIC."

The first number of "The Republic," the new Whig paper in this city, appeared Wednesday last week. Its dimensions are the same as those of the *Intelligencer*. It is under the editorial control of A. C. BULLITT and JOHN O. SARGENT, and published by Gideon & Co. at \$10 a year; Weekly, at \$2. The editors have had much experience, are gentlemen of talent and tact, and the publishers are men of capital and enterprise. The new paper announces that it starts "at a point which is usually reached by public journals after a long career of difficulty and doubt."

DEATH OF CASSIUS M. CLAY.

We know not when we have been more shocked and deeply pained, than on reading, last Monday morning, the following telegraphic despatch from Louisville:—
"A telegraphic despatch from Louisville states that at a public discussion in Madison county, Ky., on Friday last, a rencontre took place between Cassius M. Clay and Joseph Turner, which resulted in the death of both parties. Having first engaged each other, they came into close quarters with bowie knives. Mr. Clay was stabbed through the heart, after having mortally wounded Mr. Turner in the abdomen and groin. The latter is since dead."

We have not yet learned the particulars, but it is stated that the subject of discussion was Emancipation, and that Mr. Turner was an advocate of perpetuation. We do not believe that Mr. Clay was the assailant. The custom of his State, his principles, and his whole training, would lead him to defend himself by every means in his power against violence, but there is nothing in his character or history to warrant the belief

that he would ever raise his hand in ruffianly aggression.

Poor Clay! he has fallen a victim to that brutal code which is always associated with slaveholding institutions. He had committed errors—he had failed sometimes to see clearly the consequences of his own principles—he had been unable at all times to live out his own convictions of right. But he was always frank, manly, great-hearted. He loved the cause of Freedom and Popular Rights; he always held himself ready to sacrifice himself upon its altar. For a long time past, his labors in behalf of Emancipation in his own State have been great and unintermitted, and eminently successful. With a modesty which showed that his better nature had resumed its ascendancy, he was content to work without noise or parade. His name was seldom in the papers—he seemed to care little for the honor that man might award. We have been watching his course with profound interest, attracted by his moderation, calm energy, and the candor without compromise, that marked his conduct. Little did we dream that his end would come so soon, and by violence. But he could not have fallen in a nobler cause. Over his grave the friends of Freedom should renew their vows of perpetual war against a system, to the false maxims and bloody spirit of which the most chivalrous of Kentucky Emancipationists have fallen a victim.

SULPHUR AND CHOLERA.

The papers have been filled lately with several notices of a discovery by Dr. Bird, of Chicago, of the specific remedial power of sulphur in cholera. It is said that the presence of ozone in the atmosphere is always coincident with the spread of epidemic influenza and cholera. This fact, and the fact that sulphur neutralizes this element, led the Doctor to try it in some cases in Chicago. The results, he reports, were in all cases, most satisfactory. He gives three grains of sulphur, and one grain of powdered charcoal, in combination, every two, three, or four hours, as the case may demand. Everybody is now talking of the new specific. As usual, doctors disagree—some believing, some denouncing. Theory cannot settle the question. The new remedy should have a fair trial; but in a disease so rapid in its course, people will hesitate before they trust their all to one alone.

LAND LIMITATION—SOME HISTORICAL FACTS.

"Mr. Greeley, in his late lecture, is reported in one of the papers to have said, that Land Reform was an idea of the nineteenth century! That it had been tried in the Hebrew Commonwealth, but not since. If this were true, the example of years, which the Commonwealth, in regard to laws, is nothing in its favor. That Commonwealth was established in a barbarous state of society, and has long since, as a civil society, been abolished.

But, that is meant by saying that this Land Reform is an idea of the nineteenth century. Our Reformers, if they say this, are a very ungrateful people. Having borrowed their main idea from one of the most accomplished chieftains of Rome, the least they could do, is to acknowledge their obligations to his genius.
"This very idea of Land Limitation, as it is stated by the reporters to have been uttered by Mr. Greeley on Saturday night, is the identical idea proposed by Tiberius Gracchus, tribune of the Plebs, in the early days of the Republic. He was a Roman hero, of whom the world has talked much, and known very little. He was one of the two sons of Cornelia, and descendants of Scipio Africanus. Like a great many young lawyers in our country, he grew up in the law, and was a great lawyer. He took it into his head that it was his vocation to be a great man. How was it to be? He looked to the Senate, and it was filled with the Conscrip Fathers of the Republic. They were called Patricians—a name derived from *Patres*, Fathers. In the early days of the Republic, they really were. He was a young man, hot with ambition. Though a Patrician himself, he was in too great a hurry to wait for the old fellows to get off the stage. 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istration under the present Constitution, called to act upon the subject: he proves that Southern statesmen of eminence have sanctioned this policy, and avows that he himself sustained it in the case of Oregon. Why, then, not adhere to the policy? "It is unnecessary." Not more so than it was in the case of Oregon, where Mr. Benton may be said to have established it. Not more so than it was in the case of the Northwest Territory, more unsuited to slave labor than California; but Mr. Benton has vindicated the wisdom of the Ordinance which spread the shield of Freedom over that Territory. We believe positive enactment is necessary. The great mass of slaveholders, led on by Mr. Calhoun, repudiates Mr. Benton's doctrine, respecting the *locality* of slavery. Slavery will go, where it is not prohibited, and, having secured foothold without law, will then establish itself by law. California and New Mexico are just as well adapted to slave labor, as any portion of Missouri. New Mexico lies on the borders of the slaveholding States, and nothing would be easier than to transfer the evil across the boundary.

But we remark with pleasure, that while Mr. Benton insists with great earnestness upon the right of Congress to prohibit slavery, and vindicates the past policy of the exercise of that right, he urges no strong objections, manifests no nostrum, to its exercise now.

Mr. Benton is a slaveholder. Herein, he frankly confesses that his profession and conduct do not agree. We thank him for this admission; it is lamentable to decline compliance with the obligations of Justice; it is base to make our non-compliance a ground for denying them. Mr. Benton is not chargeable with this baseness. There is hope of a man, who, amidst his frailties and inconsistencies, still recognises Ideal Truth; who will not suffer "faults of his life" to "breed errors in his brain;" who will not bring down the requirements of duty to the level of his imperfect performances; who refuses to adapt his theory of rights, to his practice of wrongs. It is clear that his good angel has not yet departed—his better nature survives—the principle of a sound spiritual vitality still struggles for development. There is hope that he may yet bring up his practice to his ideal standard of duty—that the Truth to which he does homage in his heart, may come to live and move in his life.

We repeat, we thank Mr. Benton for the admission that slavery is wrong, is against the natural brotherhood of man, against natural right—for to this length, as we understand him, the admission goes.

How long will a powerful, logical, self-regarding mind be content to rest in a lamentable inconsistency, such a courageous heart confesses? As the recognised head of the real Democratic party of the country, to say nothing of the paramount obligations every man is under to his Maker, Mr. Benton has greater responsibilities than any he sustains to his State. That party to a great extent is destined to control this country, to which, he tells us, the struggling nations of the Old World are looking for a Model Democracy. These nations put an end to slavery, some of them while under monarchical rule, some, since their republican regeneration. Neither in the hour of their Oppression, nor of their Triumph, could they be blinded to the abhorrent nature of Personal Slavery. Its abolition either preceded or followed their political regeneration. When, then, they "turn their anxious looks to us" for an example of pure republicanism—Justice, Generosity, Magnanimity—how must their hearts be chilled by the sad spectacle of a slaveholder at the head of the Government, a slaveholder at the head of the Whig party, a slaveholder at the head of the Democratic party! Alas! in no spirit of sorrow or bitterness, do we quote the language of Mr. Benton: "Our example is against them; and, if the present struggle for liberty shall again miscarry in Europe, we may take to ourselves a large share of the blame!"

It is the possessors of Despot Power in Europe against whom the nations are struggling: it is the possessors of Despot Power in the United States who lead on its great parties, and control its Government. It is at the option of Henry Clay and Thomas Benton, by divesting themselves of power, identical in nature with that which is now putting forth its mightiest energies to crush the People of Europe, at once to work a peaceful revolution in this country, and to become allies in fact, as in sympathy, of the Liberals of the Old World.

For the National Era.
BETHOVEN'S SPIRIT WALTZ.
Strange, wild, rich music—how it thrills and thrills! My inner heart—a piercing melody! And then such sweet strains that fill me with joy! I breathe forth with many a sigh! 'Tis the sweetest of all, the sweetest of all! Of all that was so beautiful in life—Voices that wake the heart to ecstasy—Voices that wake the heart to ecstasy—But perished all, and earth's changes, foul, and strife, There is that soft and tender air—the voice Of her that was so sweet, with eyes of light! And then such sweet strains that fill me with joy! I breathe forth with many a sigh! 'Tis the sweetest of all, the sweetest of all! Of all that was so beautiful in life—Voices that wake the heart to ecstasy—Voices that wake the heart to ecstasy—But perished all, and earth's changes, foul, and strife, There is that soft and tender air—the voice Of her that was so sweet, with eyes of light!

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The leading principles maintained by the League were, that the corn laws were not beneficial to the whole body of agriculturists, but only to a privileged few; that they depressed other branches of industry, caused foreign importations, and fluctuations in the market value of breadstuffs, greatly enhanced the price at all times, and, therefore, were injurious to the community generally, and especially to the laboring poor. The promulgation of these principles excited a discussion of the subject, and the result was the formation of the Anti-Corn Law League, for the merits of Protection and Free Trade in their widest aspects.

H. B. S.
(TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.)

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